

events has cleared the atmosphere." Indeed, the skies and the air of the west were clear on the question twenty-five and twenty and ten years ago, but not one of the various statesmen around the board of that love-feast could see. Then he outlined a platform. Mr. Hill's speech came in the same solemn manner that any other resurrection from the dead would be witnessed. The banquet was most appropriately presided over by Bourke Cochran, he of the ample mouth and resonant vocal chords which represent "that sound and fury which signifies nothing."

CLOUDS IN THE EAST.

The news of the acute stage of trouble between Russia and Japan has been disquieting for several days, but we still believe that there will be no war, because all the directly interested powers must realize that should that war once be inaugurated, the consequences might involve all the Old World in one in an upheaval that would be to the nations what that cataclysm is to the physical world which the scientists denominate "a geological period." It looks more to us as though the partition of China is what has been determined upon. Certainly Great Britain would rather make a trade with Russia and quietly appropriate the great central valley of China than to fight her with a possible chance of having France to fight, too. Both France and Germany could be soothed by adding to their land-stealing in the Celestial empire. The stumbling block in the way is little Japan. The present generation of Japanese have grown up to hate Russia and to prepare to fight the great bear. Their hate was greatly intensified when Russia intervened and took from them the spoils of war and compelled a cessation of war between their country and China. Now Korea is the bone of contention. A glance at the map will show its importance. It is a long peninsula interposed between Port Arthur and the central seat of Japanese power, and but a day's sail from either country. The desire for it is very great on the part of both powers, and we believe Japan will fight Russia single-handed if needs be to determine the matter. If it should come to that and the two should be left to fight it out, probably Russia would in the long run crush her opponent, but in the meantime many a Russian mother would be made to weep for sons that never would return; many a Russian ship would go down with all on board, for in the Japanese-Chinese war Japan showed that in handling a modern navy she has no superior. And there is nothing chivalric in her fighting. She goes in to kill and destroy and prefers that the fight shall be at short range, and when in battle-rage she does not heed white flags or signals of distress.

But that is a dangerous game all the same for Europeans to play. What if those hordes of Mongolians under the breath of battle acquire a taste for blood and finally train their measureless strength into war form? It will be a serious business for the Caucasian race. It would be better to leave the territory of those countries intact, loan them money, go in and help them utilize all their latent resources and to equip their people in skilled work, keep them where they are, and never encourage them to become trained soldiers.

THE SAINTS AND THE PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

On Thursday morning the Tribune put out an editorial deploring the part that election resentments should find expression in the Board of Education, deploring that despotism should make its appearance in that Board and that it should all come from a member of the Board who is also a professor in the State University. There was more of the same rot. The Herald was more cowardly still. Both the morning journals

know the facts and both for their own reasons suppressed them.

The determination of the Mormons to gain absolute control of the public schools and to reduce them to a point where they will be but tools of the Church and be made absolutely subordinate to the higher Mormon schools including the University, has been as clear as the sunlight for years. When the Mormons rallied to a man and woman to elect this same Professor Cummings the Tribune, then under another administration, pointed out that the rally meant that it was understood that Cummings, if elected, would be but a creature to carry out the will of the Mormon members of the board as directed by the Church. We think every test vote that he has cast since his election has confirmed that estimate of him. Then when he springs a brother-in-law for an important office, a man unknown to every other member of the board and the whole Mormon contingent in the board support him, the fact itself is prima facie evidence of a put-up job, and it means that the man Judd will be as much a servant of that majority as Cummings always has been. It will go on until every member is a Mormon, every teacher a Mormon, until the schools will be again teaching the geography of what is now Brazil as settled by Maroni in the seventh century, and Gentiles will have to send their children away from home or to the sectarian schools to gain the rudiments of a common English education. The trick of electing Judd was first carried through in secret caucus, none but Mormons being present, except Cummings, who demanded the place for his brother-in-law. Though not one knew the man they did not dare turn him down, Cummings had been so faithful to them, and without him they would not have a majority on the board. One member cried when he voted for Judd, but said he must do his duty. That meant he must obey orders from the corner of Brigham and State street. The regular titling of the teachers would be \$26,000 a year. There will be no let up until that is secured to the church, and the schools are utterly demoralized by church hostility and church dictation.

TOO BAD.

Ex-First Assistant Postmaster General Perry Heath is sometimes in deplorable luck. Just think, his business detained him in Denver until Marshal Heywood was forced to return the subpoena sent for him, with the endorsement that after diligent search he had been unable to find the ex-First Assistant. How unfortunate that he did not leave his Denver address in the haste of going away. Had he done that the marshal might have subpoenaed him by long-distance telephone and in that way the ex-First Assistant would have been 600 miles on the way to where he was needed.

GENERAL JAMES L. LONGSTREET.

The death of the veteran General Longstreet will not attract as much attention as it would have done a quarter of a century ago, because for a long time he has been going deeper and deeper into the shadows, but he was a commanding figure when the great war was at its height. The Confederacy had not more than two or three generals who were his superiors; as a striking, fighting force only Stonewall Jackson could be named with him. He was the real commander at the second battle of Bull Run; he displayed more generalship than any other Confederate officer at Antietam; he opposed the charge of General Pickett at Gettysburg and even after he had received his orders hesitated long before ordering the columns to advance. In all the battles of the army of Virginia he was a conspicuous figure growing more and more conspicuous to the end. Where a swift onset was required Stonewall Jackson's division was hurled forward; where an

all-day relentless battle was necessary there Longstreet's division was found and it always was as when another battle was described:

"On, on, their masses crowd
And the roar of battle rises up more terrible and loud."

We believe that Generals Grant and Longstreet were classmates at West Point. Their friendship was life-long. At Grant's funeral General Longstreet was a sadly conspicuous figure. That General Longstreet when old and poor accepted a Government position from President Grant incensed the passionate men of that region. That they could turn their backs on one who had fought so many desperate battles for them, was but a proof of the intensity of the hate they bore toward those who had humbled their pride. But we believe this feeling remains only with a few any longer. Time has leveled the mounds beneath which the heroes sleep and the grass and flowers cover the sacred places. So we believe that most of the bitterness has disappeared and that the old flowers of pride in and affection for native land are lengthening their roots in the soil of the country.

The fame of General Longstreet is secure. His epitaph might truthfully read, that he was of tender than any other on "the battle's bloody virge;" that he was one of the very foremost of the soldiers of the great war; that he struggled as long and as brilliantly as any other man to support a cause which was a lost cause from the beginning, but when he ceased fighting and accepted the decree of fate, he never by act or word, or thought, broke his parole. May the dreamless sleep of the brave be his.

PRESIDENTIAL FORTUNES.

A Democratic friend does not like the statement made by us last week that Mr. Cleveland went out of office leaving the country a business wreck, but at the same time he himself had gathered together a private fortune exceeding that of all his predecessors. It is rather of a startling statement; it would be scandalous if untrue. But let us see. It is undisputed that he had nothing when elected sheriff of Erie county, N. Y. That office could not much more than support a gentleman, neither could the mayoralty of Buffalo. No honest mayor in any city in the Union ever made very much more than a living out of the office. Neither did any honest man ever save more than a trifle out of the salary paid the Governor of New York state. It seems clear, then, that when Mr. Cleveland ascended to the Presidency he had no estate worth handling. Then he must have made his money while President and during the four years interim between his two terms. When he left the office those who know best his business affairs said he was worth \$5,000,000; that the bulk of it all had been accumulated during the eight previous years and the larger part in the four immediately preceding years—years of terrible depression throughout the entire country. Now as to his predecessors.

Washington died possessed of property which eventually yielded about \$1,000,000. All his life he had owned a large tract of poor Virginia land, which could have yielded him little more than a living.

He owned the land on which the city of Washington stands and the sale of the lots made his money.

John Adams had an estate worth perhaps \$50,000; he probably saved \$50,000 more from his office as President, for those were simple days and a dollar went much farther than at present. Thomas Jefferson had 2,000 acres of poor Virginia land. He married an heiress and owned in land and slaves property worth \$200,000. Neither James Madison nor John Quincy Adams, nor James Monroe, nor Jackson, nor Van Buren, nor